



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

8:00 AM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 260 (Madison Municipal Building)

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Late Arrivals

Joanna Parker arrived at 8:15 am (during the Here We Grow discussion)

Celsa Rodriguez arrived at 8:20 am (during the Here We Grow discussion)

Present: 8 -

Lynn E. Edlefson; Kathleen B. Raschke; Joanna R. Parker; Diane B. Adams; Richard C. Schultz; Joanne E. Brown; Celsa G. Rodriguez and Nicole Anderson

Absent: 2 -

Michael B. Jacob and Patricia A. Lasky

Excused: 1 -

Shiva Bidar-Sielaff

Staff: Jolene Ibeling, Bill Clingan, Monica Host, Becky Schesny

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Edlefson, seconded by Adams to approve the minutes from March 24th.

Raschke inquired about the initial roll call. It was clarified that Legistar needs to have multiple roll calls when people enter or leave the meeting. Edlefson should be listed as absent.

Motion passed by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. [18217](#) Here We Grow Learning Center Appeal

The Committee heard testimony from John Scott and Chris Leatherberry from Here We Grow Learning Center regarding their appeal of the Community Development Director's decision to deny Here We Grow Learning Center's application for City of Madison Accreditation.

Testimony from Here We Grow Learning Center included: 73% of the children the center provides care for are Madison residents. 71 out of 98 families live within the City of Madison. The center is location just outside the City border. The MMSD 4K accreditation requirements is reason center is pursuing accreditation at this time. 19 out of 25 children in the 4 and 5 year old classrooms are Madison residents.

The center is willing to provide care to those children receiving City tuition assistance as some of the families enrolled are income eligible for the City's child care assistance program.

Goals of the City accreditation fall more in line with the center's goals than NAEYC accreditation.

Edlefson inquired about the possibility of Here We Grow pursuing alternative accreditation. Leatherby Leatherberry replied she has researched other options in the past but has yet to find one that fit the center's needs and goals. The City of Madison provides continuity and support from within the community that is not provided by other accrediting systems. Edlefson recommended the center continue researching alternatives as new models are now available.

Adams asked if the proposed quality rating system could give the center enough credibility. Scott explained they would likely receive 4 out of 5 or 5 out of 5 stars on the rating system, however, 4K is motivating factor to become accredited.

Adams inquired if the center was non-profit or for profit and when the last licensing visit was conducted. Scott replied the center is a for-profit LLC. The most recent licensing visit was April 27, 2010. The licensor contacted Scott to convey positive feedback with regard to the inspection.

Ibeling summarized correspondence regarding the accreditation application and appeal process. Current child care unit capacity and limited resources preclude approval of applications for accreditation of centers located outside the City of Madison. There is currently a waiting list for City of Madison accreditation inside the City as well as waitlist with the child care assistance program.

Clingan explained the role of the ordinance in the decision to denial deny the administrative appeal.

Adams discussed MMSD's decision to move the MMSD border ¼ mile to incorporate Head Start as part of their new IEP placement guidelines.

Clingan expressed opinion that the City's accreditation service provides service and care for City residence and recommended that Dane county provide accreditation services outside of the City. Adams added that a

statewide accreditation would be helpful.

Anderson inquired about fees for accreditation for those not in the City of Madison.

Brown added that the office does not verify number of Madison residents in Madison accredited centers located in the City of Madison.

Raschke stated the ordinance allows exceptions for accreditation services outside the City. Brown agreed.

Raschke recommended the child care unit consider the number of Madison residents served as a percentage of the center's total children enrolled and that eligibility be based on percentage of Madison residents.

Ibeling informed the Committee of the centers outside of the city that were previously granted accreditation in order to serve tuition assistance clients.

Raschke stated that the first obligation of the Unit is to follow the ordinance and assist citizens.

Parker expressed concern over financial limitations in that the Unit is unable to provide services to programs located in the City. Parker inquired if business tax pays or property tax pays for accreditation services. It was clarified that property taxes provide accreditation funding and that City residents are paying for accreditation services.

Anderson suggested businesses outside the City that should pay a higher accreditation fee.

Ibeling distributed a handout to the group that provided an estimate of the true cost of accreditation services. Based on the estimate it would cost the City \$12,970 to provide accreditation services to a center the size of Here We Grow Learning Center. The estimate does not include any additional support/consultation or technical assistance to the center outside the accreditation cycle.

Brown inquired about status of self accreditation process. Host explained that only very stable centers may go through a self-accreditation with followed by a full accreditation the subsequent year. However, with staff turnover in centers fewer centers are eligible for self-accreditation. Currently most centers are re-accredited every 12-18 months, with a small handful of centers extending two years.

Host also referenced the language in the ordinance. Families enrolled in a center that are eligible for City tuition assistance may lead to the accreditation of that center. Previously, when a center no longer served City child care assistance families the center was removed from the City's caseload.

Parker added that MMSD's 4K requirement of accreditation needs to be accompanied with financial support for accreditation services.

Clingan stated the ordinance is overdue for updates. Clingan stated that City of Madison resources need to be used support Madison families. Clingan

acknowledged there are staffing and capacity issues. Clingan stated MMSD needs to provide financial support and that the department pursue additional City funding to meet increasing demand and need.

MOTION by Parker, seconded by Edlefson to uphold denial of appeal dated March 8, 2010 for the Here We Grow application for City of Madison accreditation due to capacity.

Adams stated she is not in favor of the motion.

Parker stated the motion is in-line with ordinance requirements.

Anderson added the center is in a good location to serve vulnerable populations.

Adams reminded the committee that there are City accredited programs that do not serve low-income children.

The appeal of Here We Grow Learning Center is granted.

Absent: 3 -

Shiva Bidar-Sielaff; Michael B. Jacob and Patricia A. Lasky

Ayes: 2 -

Lynn E. Edlefson and Joanna R. Parker

Noes: 5 -

Kathleen B. Raschke; Diane B. Adams; Richard C. Schultz; Celsa G. Rodriguez and Nicole Anderson

Non Voting: 1 -

Joanne E. Brown

2. [18218](#)

CDD Update - Bill Clingan

Clingan provided Community Development Division update to committee

The Division's two year funding cycle is in the initial stages. The Community Development 2011-12 funding application goes to the CSC and CDBG committees next week for final approval. Two agency overview workshops will be held this week.

The City of Madison received funding from the Department of Energy. These funds will be used to retrofit appliances and it will be paid back via property taxes. The cost to retrofit will range from \$8,000-\$10,000. There is an aggressive time table on this process.

3. [18220](#)

2011-2012 Community Resources Funding Calendar

The updated calendar was distributed to the group. Ibeling reviewed the calendar. The May 26th ECCEC meeting will be a funding process orientation. In June there may not be any items needing to be discussed so the committee

could decide to cancel.

The committee discussed a meeting schedule for July-August. Adams will be out of the country 7/10 to 8/6. Edlefson cannot attend the 7/21 meeting. Brown will be gone from 7/26-7/30. Raschke and Schultz will no longer be a part of the committee.

An email will go out to all committee members, including those not present to inquire about availability and staff will set the meeting schedule.

The applications are due 6/25. There will be application overview workshops. Then technical workshops will be held once the application is released on 5/25.

Edlefson inquired how and when the committee would receive the applications. Ibeling explained applications will be emailed to the committee on 7/14 and hard copies could be provided if requested.

4. [18221](#)

2009-2010 Community Resources Contract Contingency Updates
Bayview Foundation
Lussier Community Education Center
Wisconsin Youth Company

There are several agencies that received funding for 2009 with contingencies to receive 2010 funding. These three centers are Bayview, Lussier and Wisconsin Youth Company.

Bayview has received a quality rating of 5 or above on the SACERS and the center has new staff and program changes. SACERS is the tool used to evaluate if the center. Lussier has met criteria evaluation of SACERS. Host has visited the center and the participation numbers are low during the school year. Wisconsin Youth Company achieved state licensing and City accreditation.

5. [18222](#)

Committee Member Updates

Reappointments:

Diane Adams - term expires 4/30/13
Nicole Anderson - term expires 4/30/13

Expired Terms:

Thank you to Richard Schultz (term expires 4/30/10) and Kathy Raschke (term expires 4/30/10) for your dedication and participation over the years.
To be determined: Joanne Brown, Chair (term expires 4/30/10).
ECCEC Chair appointment and nominations for representative to CSC if needed.

Adams and Anderson were reappointed. Thank you to Raschke and Schultz for their service. The Mayor's Office has not made decision regarding Brown's request to be reappointed.

6. [12054](#)

ECCEC Subcommittee

The 5/26 subcommittee will consist of Rodriguez, Adams and Anderson.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Raschke, seconded by Parker to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 am.
Motion passed by voice vote.